such system is the California Pesticide Registry, which establishes the quantity, location, and timing of the use of chemicals that could have an effect on water quality.

The committee recommends that states consider establishing ongoing inventories of potential contaminating activities and substances. The compounds and activities inventoried should be selected on the basis of potential risks and quantities of use in each state or regional area. They should include not only traditional sources such as industrial discharges, landfills, and underground storage of chemicals and petroleum products, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers but also other polluting substances used in significant quantities in land use practices, such as transportation, septic tank cleaning, drilling or mining operations, and underground injection. Such a system can provide valuable information on quantities and locations of substances being used and their potential for contaminating ground water.

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

"Classification system/' as the concept is used in this report, is a comprehensive system with which to classify waters for differential ground water protection strategies. This system may be applied to ground water in several aquifer units or portions thereof and water basins. This basic policy allows states to apply the appropriate levels of protection to ground water based on present and future uses; e. g., high-water-quality aquifers would receive the highest level of protection, whereas other less critical uses of ground water resources would receive lower levels of priority for protection. Criteria for ground water classification include hydrogeologic characteristics, present quality, current and potential uses, land use, vulnerability to contamination, and depth.

A classification system may satisfy a number of objectives, including the following:

- Provide a focus for limited state resources on protection and restoration of valuable and sensitive aquifers;
- Provide a basis for coordinated management of ground water resources and the activities that potentially have an impact on the resource at all levels of government; and
- Provide guidance for implementation of regulatory and enforcement programs.

Under a classification system, geographic areas, aquifers, or portions of aquifers are identified and placed in different categories, each of which is afforded a different level of protection. This allows the state to be mapped